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*Admitted only in Maryland
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•Practice limited to
Federal Agencies

November 14, 2005

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Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
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Art Unit 1637

Attn: Mail Stop Amendment

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Application No. 09/599,594; Filed: June 22, 2000
For: **Primers and Methods for the Detection and Discrimination of Nucleic Acids**
Inventors: Nazarenko *et al.*
Our Ref: 0942.4980002/RWE/FRC

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111; and
2. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
November 14, 2005
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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank R. Cottingham", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Frank R. Cottingham
Attorney for Applicants
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FRC/pcd
Enclosures

464617v1



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

NAZARENKO *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/599,594

Filed: June 22, 2000

For: **Primers and Methods for the
Detection and Discrimination of
Nucleic Acids**

Confirmation No.: 8750

Art Unit: 1637

Examiner: Fredman, J.

Atty. Docket: 0942.4980002/RWE/FRC

Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated **August 12, 2005**, Applicants submit the following Amendment and Remarks. This Amendment is provided in the following format:

- (A) Each section begins on a separate sheet;
- (B) Starting on a separate sheet, a complete listing of all of the claims:
 - in ascending order;
 - with status identifiers; and
 - with markings in the currently amended claims;
- (C) Starting on a separate sheet, the Remarks.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of

this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.